

Mayor and Board of Health

2013-2014

A Message from Mayor Chris Beutler

A Message from the Board of Health President



Chris Beutler
Mayor of Lincoln

2014 was another year of accomplishment for the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department as it worked with partners to reach our community goal - becoming the healthiest City in the nation. This report reflects the hard work and dedication of Health Department employees, the Board of Health and all those who serve on the department's advisory committees.

To demonstrate my personal commitment to a healthier community, I issued a five-year challenge in 2013 to encourage our residents to be more active, eat more fruits and vegetables and maintain a healthy weight. We can take pride in our progress! One clear indication came this year from the National League of Cities. Lincoln achieved "gold medal" status in all five goal areas of the "Let's Move Cities, Towns and Counties" Initiative. Of the 500 participating

communities, Lincoln was one of just 23 to receive the award for our efforts to reduce obesity, increase physical activity and improve nutrition, especially for our children. Though the efforts of our Health Department and Parks and Recreation departments, Lincoln also was designated as a 2014 "Playful City" to recognize our efforts to make active play a priority for our kids.

Looking ahead, the Health Department has made a commitment to pursue national accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board. Only 52 local and eight state health departments have met the rigorous requirements of national accreditation. In 2014, Maternal and Child Health Services staff in partnership with CEDARS Youth Services did achieve accreditation by Healthy Families America/Prevent Child Abuse America, an organization aimed at lowering the incidence of child abuse and neglect.

The Health Department's ongoing efforts include such important work as helping to establish medical and dental homes for low-income, uninsured or under-insured residents; conducting responsible beverage server training; reviewing, inspecting and permitting food establishments; and collecting unused medications for proper disposal.

I want to thank the many dedicated health professionals who work every day to make Lincoln a healthier community!



Heidi Stark, DDS
President

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Board of Health is charged each year to represent its citizens in the area of public health, and to strive to help make Lincoln and Lancaster County the healthiest place in America to work, live, and raise a family. We work alongside the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department to accomplish these goals together with our community partners. We are extremely fortunate to be a part of a community that takes public health seriously.

It has been a pleasure working with Mayor Chris Buetler in accomplishing these goals for our city and county. Always striving for improvements and looking for opportunities for our city and county, it is quite evident that progress is being made towards making Lincoln and Lancaster County an even better place to live. With healthier food options in public venues, more opportunities for family exercise with the increased number of bike trails in the city and the Antelope Valley Project, and more facilities opening that are focused on public health, the city is making great strides toward our goals.

It is a privilege to work alongside Director, Judy Halstead, and her gifted staff of professionals who selflessly give of their time and resources to help those in our city and county. We know it's an honor to be given this responsibility, and we welcome input and feedback as we continue to make this journey with you.

2013-2014 Board of Health Members



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Vice President



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County Commissioner



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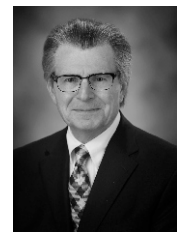
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